The Government has decided upon a policy framework for satellite communications in India. The salient features of this policy are; (a) transponder capacity of INSAT system would be orffered to non-governmental users also on commercial terms subject to capacity availability, (b) Indian private Parties will be permitted to establish commercial communication satellites and the Parties will be assisted in registering such satellite systems and networks with the International telecommunications Union (ITU) as Indian Satellites and (c) operations from Indian soil will be allowed with both Indian and forcign satellites in accordance with the norms and conditions to be evolved, but Indian satellites will be accorded preferential treatment. In so far as satellite based broadcasting is concerned, the various provisions of the Satellite Communications policy, framework would conform to the proposed Broadcasting Law.

Satellite communications systems have become a fundamental infrastructure of the communications network in the country and hence needs to be properly regulated for orderly growth. Further, Indian Satellite Systems have to comply with the various United Nations and International Telecommunications Union treaties and other international agreements to which India is a Party. The government will work out in the next few months, the norms and conditions concerning the various aspects of the policy for its effective implementation. It is expected that the enunciation of the policy framework will lead to the development of a healthy and thriving communications satellite and ground equipment industry as well as satellite communications service industry in India. This will also open the INSAT system for wider usage.

ISRO's targets for global market in Hardware

282. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO in targeting global market for hardware;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the country's future space programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The primary objective of Indian Space Programme is development of space technology for national developmental applications. However, the capabilities built in meeting this primary objective are also used for exploiting the global market. For this purpose, Antrix Corporation Limited, the commercial arm of the Department of Space, was set up in September 1992. Antrix has been establishing contacts with users of space hardware world wide and has already bagged a few contracts for supply of hardware for ground systems and space systems. These include data reception and processing hardware, satellite mechanical parts, intertial system, propulsion elements etc. Besides, Antrix Corporation has entered into a commercial agreement with SI-EOSAT of the US under which data from India's Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) Satellites is received and marketed worldwide.

Also, DOS has signed an agreement with the International Telecommunication Satellite Organisation, INTELSAT, for lease of an equivalent of eleven 36 MHz C-band transponder capacity on Indian National Satellite-2E (INSAT-2E) to be launched by India in 1998.

(c) India's future space programme envisages continuation and enhancement of space services in the areas of telecommunication, television broadcasting, meterology, disaster management and resources survey through advanced IRS and INSAT satellites. Commensurate launch capabilities will be built, with Polar Satel-

lite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV).

Launching of third generation Communication Satellite by ISRO

283. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the programme of Indian Space Research Organisation to launch a third generation communication satellite;

(b) the progress made in the process of achieving a full scale indigenous cryogenic engine; and

(c) by when it will be tested?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) The third generation INSAT Satellites will be a continuation of the second generation satellites to provide adequate capacity and continuity of services. Under the Indian National Satellite-3 (INSAT-3) programme, five satellites are planned to be built-from Calendar Year 1999 to 2002.

(b) Significant progress has been made in development of cryogenic upper stage. The design of the engine is completed and realisation of the engineering model is under way. The detailed design of the stage is completed. The facilites required to fabricate and test the engine and state are in the advanced stage of readiness. A one tonne class pressure fed cryo engine has been successfully developed, which gives confidence for the realisation of the larger engine.

(c) It is planned to initiate a series of tests on Engine by 1998 and the flight stage is targeted by 1999-2000.

Improvement in civic amenities in Madhy Pradesh, Rajasthan and North east

284. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the details of various schemes/projects/plans etc. launched/contemplated by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment for improving civic amenities like housing, sanitation, etc. in cities of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and North-Eastern region, during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): New schemes launched by this Ministry in the last five years relevant to Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and North East States are as follows:—

(i) Accelerated Uarban Water Supply Programme, launched in 1993-94 to provide Central assistance to State Governments for providing drinking water facilities to towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 census).

(ii) Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme, launched in November, 1995, to attack the several root causes of urban poverty simultaneously. Besides the objectives of employment generation and skill development, the PMI UPEP also aims at effective achievement of social sector goals, community empowerment convergence through sustainable support systems, environment improvement and shelter upgradation.

2. New schemes presently contemplated are:—

(a) Prime Minister's Awas Yojana for providing Central subsidy for the reconstruction/repair of houses for the urban poor affected by natural calamities.

(b) Savings linked Housing Scheme with LIC support and HUDCO loan for the urban and rural poor.

Pending finalisation of IXth Plan a token provision of Rs. 50 lakhs for Prime Minister's Awas Yojana and